

13 REASONS TO UNFRIEND THE GYPSY MOTH



13 You Aren't Made of Money
Infestations cost billions: expensive control programs, reduced tourism, replacing trees in forests and at home, and restrictions on exports.

12 Not a Walk in the Park
Gypsy moths destroy large swaths of national and state parklands.

11 Creepy Crawlies
Millions of caterpillars can cover trees and your car, house, lawn, playground equipment, and can even fall on you.



10 Stowaways
They hitch rides on ships, motor homes, and even patio furniture to relocate to a new home.

9 They Don't Share
Caterpillar feeding reduces food and shelter for other birds and wildlife, including threatened species like the Northern Spotted Owl.

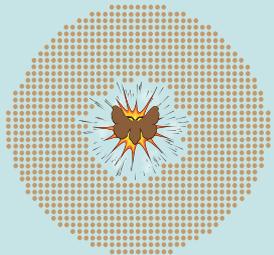
8 Overstaying Their Welcome
Once gypsy moth becomes established, as they have in almost half of US states, you can't get them to leave. They stick around **FOREVER.**



7 Freeloaders
Caterpillars feast on your trees and shrubs, without even leaving a thank you note.

6 Allergies
Caterpillar hairs can irritate the skin and leave rashes on susceptible adults and children.

5 Population Explosion
Gypsy moths can lay up to 1000 eggs each year, so their population can rapidly explode.



4 Stress Management
Defoliating trees stresses them out, jeopardizing their health.

3 Environmental Wrecking Balls
The ecological damage left by gypsy moth destruction includes: damaged tree canopies, dead trees that fuel forest fires, degraded stream quality, and warmer water temperatures which causes fish decline or death.



2 Caterpillar Poop
Lots and LOTS of caterpillar poop. In areas with infestations, what sounds like a steady rain outside for several weeks each year is really thousands of caterpillars defecating in people's yards.



1 Tree Killers
Evergreen trees, which Asian gypsy moths eat, can die from one gypsy moth infestation. Even deciduous trees can die from multiple years of caterpillar feeding.



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State Department of
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